

No. 29,548.

CARRIES A TOTAL OF \$400,000,000

District on Which Taxes

Will Be Levied.

Carrying a total of \$100,000,000. Wash-

September 1 last, was announced today. legislation, returned to Washington inaugural committee, the returns from ure for assessment purposes, so that has spent the Christmas holidays.

The findings are only \$10,000,000 more than the triennial assessment reported This small increase includes new buildings, it being estimated that

The last triennial assessment show-ed an increase in property values of \$40,000,000 for the three years preced-

Officials Decline to Comment.

Officials of the assessor's office would

Taxes under the new assessment will not become due and payable before the same taxes that were paid a year

Sessment.

Under the new law the assessor's office acquired five field men, and this additional assistance greatly facilitated the carrying out of the provisions of the law. According to Assessor William P. Richards, the business section between the Capitol and 16th street and B and I streets has never been more exhaustively inspected for assessment purposes. Not only were 75 per cent of all the buildings in this section cubed and factored for valuation purposes, but all sales of property in

residential and other sections buildings have been carefully examined and sales and rents have been closely canvassed and tabulated, so that the office has had a better guide in this

gross rentals.

So far as the board has been able, they have made extra effort to equalize and make allowance for depreciation and obsolescence in the various classes of old structures; however, it is almost impossible to cover this field with the utmost thoroughness in the time allowed for assessments, and data in the of equalization and review; particularly in Georgetown and the southwest section of the city has there been a special effort in this direction. Most of the buildings in those localities have been a favor force as the means of obtaining boliday and the strikers declare they buildings in those localities have been as the means of obtaining boliday and the strikers declare they allies as a favor force as the means of obtaining boliday and the strikers declare they allies as a favor force as the means of obtaining boliday and the strikers declare they allies as a favor force as the means of obtaining the favor force as the means of obtaining and the strikers declare they allies as a favor force as the means of obtaining the favor force as the means of obtaining and the strikers declare they allies as a favor force as the means of obtaining the favor force as the means of obtaining and the strikers declare they allies as a favor force as the means of obtaining the favor force as the means of obtaining and the strikers declare they allies as a favor force as the means of obtaining the favor force as the means of obtaining and the strikers declare they allies as a favor force as the means of obtaining the fav

RAILWAY PROGRAM IS TO BE PUSHED

Value of Land and Buildings in Strong Opposition in Senate to Its Sale Expected to Conthe "Investigation Before Strike" Feature.

SMALL INCREASE IS SHOWN WALK-OUT NOT EXPECTED WILSON WOMEN TO MARCH

Senator Newlands, chairman of the ington's first biennial assessment, made | Senate interstate commerce committee,

the total value of all land and buildings He said that the committee would proin the District, as found by the board, ceed as expeditiously as possible with the proposed railroad bills. The failure of the railway managers and the representatives of the railroad brotherthree years ago, in the amount of \$390,- hoods to reach an agreement in their controversy over putting the Adamson eight-hour law into effect January 1 increase in land values during the he said, would not cause any change in is to be organized on a different basis past three years is but approximately the committee's program for handling from any of the other inaugural the proposed legislation.

the two measures advocated by the President, one to make it unlawful for typographically as well as in other reot comment upon the small increase a strike or lockout to be ordered in of the last three years as compared case of trouble between the employers with the \$40.000,000, increase in the three-year period before that, but opinions communicated to the office by local business and real estate men indicate a general belief that the agitation over the organic act and the Borland amendment for street assessments have had a depressing effect upon the realty market.

So much complaint has been made to see the street assessments have had a depressing effect upon the realty market.

a depressing effect upon the realty market.

So much complaint has been made to the assessor's office over the inability of owners to obtain prices for property which would have been offered three years ago that a wholesale appeal on the board's findings is expected to be made. It is considered probable that the \$400,000,000 assessment may be considerably reduced before the board of equalization and review concludes consideration of the appeals.

The board will meet next Tuesday to take up appeals. It will continue its sessions for five months. In that time every owner who feels that his property has been rated at too high a figure will be given an opportunity to lay his complaint before the board. After the first Monday in June no appeals will be considered.

to be heard, but that he had not yet been informed what witnesses would appear.

There is strong opposition on the part of some members of the committee to the bill compelling an investigation before an organized strike can be called. Senator Cummins of lowa is one of those who has expressed disapproval of such a measure, and has questioned the constitutionality of such an act, on the ground that it might violate the constitutional prohibition against involuntary servitude. A number of the other senators have expressed similar ideas, and today it was said that so strong was the opposition such a bill might never be reported favorably from the committee.

Strongly Urged by President.

The President has strongly recommend-

The President has strongly recommended such legislation, however, and if the

Senate, as he has in the case of other ago will be due under the old assessment.

Senate, as he has in the case of other ago will be due under the old assessment.

The assessment anounced today is in reality the last of the old triennial system and the first of the blennial. It was begun nearly a year ago, under the law of August 14, 1894, but in the meantime Congress passed the law for blennial assessments. The triennial assessments. The triennial assessments under the old law, would have been opened for examination on the first Monday of January, 1917, but under the new law it will be opened at the same time as the first biennial assessment.

Under the new law the assessor's office acquired five field men, and this additional assistance greatly facilitated the carrying out of the provisions of the law. According to Assessor William P. Richards, the business section Thinks It Would End Strikes.

Senate, as he has in the case of other desired. If the administration is not determined in its effort to obtain this legislation, which, by the under the new law it will be discussed in this legislation, which he desired. If the administration is not determined in its effort to obtain this legislation, which, by the will continue the same time and the first of the blenial assessment. Under the new law it will be opened at the same time as the first biennial assessment.

Under the new law the assessor's will additional assistance greatly facilitated the commerce of the country by generative to the committee on interstate to the provisions of the leave the commerce of the country by generative the commerce of

purposes, but all sales of property in when disputes arose between the rail- Auerbach, Edward T. Bates, Richard J. road employers and employes. Such a bill probably will be offered in the Sen-Brashears. Wallace Bassford, Jhn V. ate early in the consideration of the Barros, Bruce A. Bielaski, Bernard M. railroad legislation.

cost, etc., the gross rental of some 700 or 800 apartment houses having been compiled, so that the office is able to make a comparison by means of these gross rentals.

So far as the board has been able.

tion of the city has there been a special of brotherhoods, however, appear to to an end. New real day effort in this direction. Most of the buildings in those localities have been favor force as the means of obtaining holiday and the strikers declare they buildings in some few cases raises their desires. They seem to prefer to will return to their classes on Tuesday.

avor force as the means of obtaining needweed, but in some few cases raise have been found necessary in order to allow the series of needs of the trailroads have been found necessary in order to allow the series of real estate have been assessed, improved by approximately 76,000 and the series of real estate have been assessed, improved by approximately 76,000 and the series of real estate have been assessed, improved by approximately 76,000 and the series of real estate have been assessed, improved by approximately 76,000 and the series of t

OFFICIAL SOUVENIR TO BE ART WORK

tribute Largely Toward Expenses of Inaugural.

official souvenir program for the inunder the provisions of the law passed which is handling the proposed railroad auguration, under the control of the This is the customary two-thirds fig- early today from New York, where he which are expected to help in paying the necessary inaugural expenditures. souvenirs and printing of which Cornelius Ford, the public printer, is Chairman R. N. Harper. This is the last inaugural committee to be named save that on Public Order, which is in charge of Mai, Raymond W. Pullman and which

> It is proposed to make Committee Meets Tuesday.
>
> The committee is to meet Tuesday, he said, when a hearing will be given on the committee of many men prominently identified with the printing and ects the souvenir will be most attractive.

committees.

"Preparedness" in Parade.

Inaugural Chairman Robert N. Harper War Department is a part of the curricday at 2 p.m., with Maj. Gen. Devol. the over relative to the participation of the states' militia and the schools throught out the United States in which military training under an instructor from the War Department is a part of the curriulum. This effort to emphasize "preparedness" is to be an outstanding feature of the military sections of the parade, according to Chairman Harper.

That the Women's Wilson Union, whose president and organizer are the first women ever named on an inaugural committee, will be conspicuous in the parade, was emphasized at a meeting in the Oxford Hotel yesterday, which was presided over by Mrs. James H. Boggs of the inaugural committee. Mrs. Wesley Martin Stoner, the other woman named on the inaugural committee, also was present. over relative to the participation of the

It was voted for the Woman's Wil-

Bridget, William F. Brooks, Walter A. buildings have been carefully examined and sales and rents have been closely canvassed and tabulated, so that the office has had a better guide in this respect than in any previous assessment.

Suburban Land Values Stationary.

Land values apparently have remained stationary in the suburban sections in the last three years, and few changes have been made. The principal increases were on corner sites in the business section. Values in many old buildings were reduced by the board.

Apartment houses throughout the District, it is stated, have received special attention as to condition, rental, cost, etc., the gross rental of some 700.

Joseph P. Fontron Dead.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., December 39.—Joseph P. Fontron, candidate for governor of Missouri at the last election on the prohibition and progressive tickets, is dead.

Librarians to Meet in Louisville.

CHICAGO, December 30.—The next annual meeting of the American Library Association will be held at Louisville on July 21-27.



THE MISPLACED RESOLUTIONS

TO SMALL NEUTRAL NATIONS

WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1916-FOURTEEN PAGES.

British Field Marshal Thinks the States Adjacent to Germany Are Likely to Share the Fate of Belgium.

think so," was the most arresting through it seems likely that the Presi- inaugural parade, led by a band com- chief of the home forces, in the course dent will be able to force the hand of the posed entirely of women, who will be of a conversation I had with him in

Lord French's Reply.

Speaking with characteristic animation and directness, Lord French replied:

"Field fortifications and spadework are of far more importance and value today than at any previous time in the history of war. If the manual labor thus entailed can be carried out by impressing the populations of the countries that have been subjugated by hostille troops, this, of course, would addimmensely to the strength of the fighting fronts. There are many other ways in which the populations of the subjugated countries can be used, and principally it is necessary to consider and determine the military value of impressed men on the lines of communication. This also has been much increased in importance in the war today. It is difficult to assess this extra strength in actual figures."

"If Germany were to give Holland, Denmark, Norway and perhaps Sweden the choice of joining her or of being subjugated, what would be the effect upon Germany's military position?"

"The subjugation of these and other time to time the neutral country. From the country. From time to time the neutral country.

day before 10 o'clock for insertion in the New Year

AT VERDUN, SAYS BERLIN

Man Hill Positions, According to Report.

BERLIN, December 30, by wireless to pulsed by the Germans. The statement

"Army group of Crown Prince Ruprecht: Northeast of Lille and on the omme, especially on the north bank, and in isolated parts of the Aisne front, he artillery fire temporarily increased. Advances by British and French patrols repeatedly repulsed.

Prince: On the left bank of the Meuse day launched several attacks, preceded by strong waves of artillery fire, against the new lines on Dead Man hill cap-tured by us. All the attacks were re-

Teutons Fail in Champagne.

PARIS, December 30, 2:10 p.m .- The nade here today:

The champagne a detachment of the enemy which attempted, after a spirited bombardment, to capture one of our posts in the vicinity of Beause-jour was dispersed by our fire. West of Tahure we carried out a successful surprise attack on an enemy trench.

"On the left bank of the Meuse (Verdon front) the night was relatively "On the left bank of the Meuse (Verdon front) the night was relatively calm. There is nothing to report from the remainder of the front."

Two British Steamers Sunk.

LONDON, December 30 .- Lloyds announces that the British steamers Oronsay and Mereddic have been sunk.

"THE NEW YEAR AND THE AMERI-CAN RED CROSS"—What the Red Cross has accomplished in the past year and what it looks forward to in 1917.

'THE DEAL"-An impressive story, by ZONA GALE.

"THE GOVERNMENT'S WAR ON WASTE"—On the theory that saving weste is a material factor in reducing the high coat of living. Uncle Sam's scientists have found remedies for much of the waste in making and marketing food products. "LET ME SEE YOU DRIVE AND I'LL TELL YOU WHAT YOU ARE," by BRUCE BARTON.

"SELECTING SALESMEN BY SCIENCE." by EDWIN BALMER— An article which should appeal es-pecially to the business man. FRANK G. CARPENTER VISITS THE GOLD MINES NEAR NOME, ALASKA."

"THE SPORT OF KINGS"—Another in-stallment of this horse-race serial, by ARTHUR SOMERS ROCHE.

MOTHERS"-A two-page spread of appealing pictures. "THE RAMBLER WRITES OF OLD STRAWBERRY VALE MANOR."

"A FLICKETTY ONE LOOKS ON"-A Shorty McCabe story, by SEWELL FORD.

"STERLING HEILIG VISITS DR. CAR REL'S WONDERFUL WAR HOS PITAL, A FEW MILES FROM THE GERMAN FRONT IN FRANCE."

"ANNUAL SUGAR BILL OF THE UNITED STATES IS \$720,000,000," by JAMES B. MORROW. "REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS."

IN THE SUNDAY STAR

ALLIES TO ANSWER PEACE NOTE TODAY

Response to Teutonic Proposal Explanatory of Original Peace Will Be Made Public in Paris.

allies' answer to the German note of December 30, 10:10 a.m.—It has been December 12 will be handed to Am-

Parisien, and published tomorrow. It is long, and sets forth again the the entente nations. This note has not esponsibility of the central empires been presented. for the European conflagration. It The reason for the withholding of the insists on legitimate reparations and note is said to be that the German rerestitutions demanded by the entente ply, received in the interim, showed as outlined by Premier Lloyd George that the German government had not and also says that Germany, by failing been influenced by the "misconceptions to formulate proposals for peace, re- regarding the purpose and aims of moves in advance any basis for pour-

The note seeks to suggest that the uted thereto." Berlin cabinet, having proclaimed in 1914 its contempt for treaties, cannot pretend to obtain the same conditions as powers respectful of signatures, and

STOCKHOLM, December 29, via Lonlon, December 30 .- K. A. Wallenberg. handed to Ira Nelson Morris, the Ameriminister, the Séandinavian countres peace note to the belligerents for smission to Washington. When Mr. is delivered President Wilson's to M. Wallenberg, December 21, oreign minister evidenced profound test in the desire for peace, and the handed to Mr. Morris reflects this the feeling pervalling throughout dinavia.

Proposals Reach Berlin.

that the Berlin dispatches referred to the two statements by Secretary Lansing issued the day after the dispatch of the original note was announced.

He indicated that under the recent visions, he would make no statement either affirming or denying such reports.

It is felt that much misunderstanding might arise in the popular mind, but it is held that the various governments addressed will be influenced only by the official information, which will be quite complete. can minister, the Scandinavian counries' peace note to the belligerents for Morris delivered President Wilson's. note to M. Wallenberg, December 21, the foreign minister evidenced profound interest in the desire for peace, and the as the feeling pervailing throughout

BERLIN, December 29, via London, peace notes were presented today to the foreign office in Berlin and Vienna, the Swedish minister in Berlin and the Swedish and Danish representa tives in Vienna being the first to de-liver the documents. The text agrees liver the documents. The text agrees with outlines telegraphed from the Scandinavian capitals.

Delivered in Paris.

PARIS. December 30 .- The Swedish Norwegian and Danish ministers denight supporting the initiative taken by President Wilson. The notes are identical, and are couched in terms even more platonic than the Swiss note.

Scandinavian Notes Here.

Three more nations-Norway, Sweden and Denmark-have formally notified (Verdun front) the French during the this government of their lively interest in President Wilson's proposals "look ing toward the establishment of a durable peace" and their "deepest sym- mind, might be dispelled by official

"It is with the most lively interest hat the Norwegian government has earned of the proposals which the

ward its own people and toward all humanity if it did not express its deepcould contribute to put an end to the ever-increasing suffering and the moral and material losses. It has every hope that the initiative of President Wilson will arrive at a result worthy of the high purpose which inspired it."

No Proffer of Help.

Unlike the Swiss government, which offered to help in any way, "no matter how modest." the Scandinavian coun-

how modest," the Scandinavian countries make no direct offer of co-operation. This fact attracted particular interest because Norway, particularly, The State Department made public the

can claimants to cargoes in the British before the court without engaging local legal aid.

sary, however, for all claimants "to enter appearance," this being the formal action to notify the court of their intention to appear in defense of their interests, which may be done by an agent in London qualified to do so by interests, which may be done by an agent in London qualified to do so by power of attorney.

In discussing the new plan with the Associated Press Mr. Skinner stated that the prize laws of both England and the United States hold that the claimant must exhaust his legal rights before invoking diplomatic intervention, and that consequently the arrangement will safeguard the claims of small owners who cannot afford the usual expenses of litigation.

It is announced that it will be neces

SAYS PRESIDENT WILSON

December 30.-Dr. Paul Nathan, well known in America as the secretary of article in Der Tag, warns the Germans against the view that President Wilson is a mere puppet pulled by British wires. The article, which is a good example of moderate German views, is

SECOND U. S. NOTE SENT, SAYS BERLIN

ONE CENT.

Proposal, According to Cable Report.

ON LLOYD GEORGE'S LINES STORY DISCREDITED HERE

BERLIN, December 29, via London learned that a few days ago President assador Sharp tonight, says the Petit Wilson sent a second note, explanatory of the first, to the central powers and

> President Wilson's step which an unfriendly press in both camps attrib-

Mr. Lansing Is Silent.

Secretary Lansing refused to comsecond explanatory note had been sent both to the central powers and the entente allies to correct misinterpretations of the President's note calling for neace terms

Other officials, however, said they wer sure no second note had been ser that the Berlin dispatches referred to the

Statements Sent Abroad.

Secretary Lansing also refused to indicate whether he thought the Berlin report might have arisen out of the sending abroad for the information of American diplomats of his two statements authorized the day the note was published. It is known that these statements were transmitted to the American diplomats to acquaint them fully with what had taken place here,

fully with what had taken place here, but that they were not instructed to present them to the various foreign offices.

Secretary Lansing has been most emphatic ever since his two statements were issued in saying that the President's note was absolutely self-explanatory and required no further comment. He has stated also that no special instructions were sent the American diplomats as to the manner of presenting the note.

Must Endure Misunderstandings Intimations that the misunderstand-

ing abroad, particularly in the public statements from here have met with an unfavorable reception. It has been The Norwegian note, with which said that no matter what the public those from Denmark and Sweden are identical, follows:

"It is with the most lively interest that the Norwegian government has been red of the proposed with the solutely confidential.

of the entente allies. These points, taken in their order of importance, from the administration

Assurance of Future Peace. The last point has aroused most comment, and the first was emphasized by has been one of the greatest sufferers | Secretary Lansing's statement, afterward modified, that the United States itself might be drawing near entrance

The State Department made public the Norwegian note without comment.

The official copies of the Danish and Swedish notes also reached the State Department today, being similar in terms to that from Norway.

AMERICAN OWNERS OF CARGOES SAFEGUARDED

LONDON, December 30.—As the result of conferences between Sir Samuel T. Evans, president of the British prize court, and Robert P. Skinner, the American consul general, an arrangement today that such a fear has been concluded under which Americans been concluded under which Americans and the state of the British prize out today that such a fear has been one of the main objections of the entering into peace discussion.

ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY CLOSED BY CONTRIBUTION

Money sufficient to close another of the annual "fourteen opportunities" has been received by the Associated Charities within the last twenty-four hours. Eleven of these opportunities are now Eleven of these opportunites are now fully subscribed and consequently closed. The latest is No. 14 and the list of those closed embraces Nos. 1 to 3, inclusive, 12 and 14.

Three, Nos. 10, 11 and 13, are still open and need, in round numbers, \$100 apiece. The total amount needed for all was \$5,794 and about \$5,500 is in hand.

Contributions received by The Star today are hereby acknowledged as fol-Previously acknowledged \$1,200.37

IS NOT BRITISH PUPPET
O. B., most needy.
O. B., most needy.
Thos. J. Heany, No. 10.
S. W., most needy.
ERLIN, December 29, via London, L. J. S., No. 13. BERLIN, December 29, via London. Total\$1,220.37

Reginald John Smith a Suicide. LONDON, December 30, 12:35 p.m.-A

oroner's jury today returned a verdict that Reginald John Smith, head of a London publishing house and editor of based on the assumption that President Wilson is pursuing a policy dictated solely by practical American interests

(Continued on Second Page.)

London publishing labeled without the Cornhill Magazine, whose death was reported Thursday, committed suicide while temporarily insane, having thrown himself from a window while his nurse was out of the room.

adjutant general for the inaugural parade, at which matters will be talked LORD FRENCH FORESEES PERIL

BY EDWARD PRICE BELL.

opyright, 1916, by the Chicago Daily News Co.) LONDON, December 30 .- "I certainly

"How much can the central empires add to their military strength by impressing Belgians, Serbians, Poles and Rumanians; how many thousands or scores of thousands of Teutons may be thrown into the fighting fronts as the result of these impressments?"

whelming case for charity in Belgium. what would the allies have done?" "The strictly military interests of the

PITTSBURGH, Pa., December 30 .-Seats on the Pittsburgh Stock Exchange have reached a valuation of \$5,000. The

FIELD MARSHAL FRENCH.

Denmark, Norway and perhaps Sweden the choice of joining her or of being subjugated, what would be the effect upon Germany's military position?"

"The subjugation of these and other states will increase Germany's military power in proportion as her military power in proportion as her military strength has been enhanced by impressing the populations of the smaller countries site has already overrun."

Small States Rated "Life Buoys."

"Then all these little states about Germany are in the nature of life buoys that she might seize if she were sinking?"

"Yes, I think so."

"If there had not been an oversiking case for charity in Belgium, whelming case for charity in Belgium, "Released From Responsibility."

Released From Responsibility.

"To sum up the indirect cost to the allies as regards Belgium when that allies has been the relieving of the Gercountry had been occupied, leaving out mans of all responsibility for the maintenance of more than 7,000,000 people. would have been to apply the blockade to Beigium in the same way as to the central empires themselves. The right to blockade friendly or neutral territory occupied by the enemy is clearly recognized by The Hague convention, and this recognition indicates what the military interests of a belligerent must be."

"What are these military interests—"What are these military interests—"

"What are these military interests—"

"The interest of more than 7,000,009 people, whom, under international law, they were obliged to feed and maintain in health, and whom, moreover, they otherwise actually would have had either to feed or deport wholesale, since it is impossible from a military point of view to have a starving population on the lines of communication of a great army." Such are the views and such the facts adduced by the man who commanded the British army on the continent uninterruptedly for seventeen months, and who, in that most famous of all the salients in the war, won the title of Viscount French of Ypres.

OLYMPIA, Wash., December 30 .- As a libeler of George Washington's memory, Paul Haffer of Tacoma must serve

Libe'er of Washington Punished.

four months in the county jail, the

Washington supreme court upholding the conviction of Haffer on a criminal libel charge. Haffer published an article accusing the first President of the United States of drunkenness and other irregularities. \$5.000 for Seat in Stock Exchange.

"MAKE THIS NEW YEAR A DO YEAR," and "HE DIDN'T KNOW IT COULDN'T BE DONE," and "OUR CHANGING STRAIN," and "THE PERIL OF PEACE," by HERBERT KAUFMAN. prouncement of the sale of a seat at that price, the highest with one exception in ten years, has been made. The last sale of a seat was at \$2,300 several weeks ago. Since that time the value of the 120 seats has increased \$325,000 to a total value of \$600,000.

FOE'S ATTACKS CHECKED

French Unable to Regain Lost Dead

ayville.—Several attacks were made by the French yesterday on the Verdun front, says today's report from army headquarters. All efforts to re take positions in this sector were re-

ollowing official announcement was

TOMORROW

READING COURSES FOR PARENTS' -How the government is aiding parents to be prepared with information for their children.

GREAT BRITAIN'S FOOD DICTATOR SHIP AND THE BRITISH APPE-TITE FOR BEEF, MUTTON, CHEFSE, TEA AND BREAD," by CHARLES M. PEPPER.

"MURDER WILL OUT -Showing how the murderer, despite his cunning, always overlooks at least one little detail which betrays him.

MONEY WE SPEND WITHOUT KNOWING IT," by H. E. ZIMMER-